

7800 High Score Cartridge

For Use ONLY with the
Atari 7800 PROSystem.

A 7800 Systems, Inc. Product
An Atari-History.com owned Company

Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of the 7800 High Score Cartridge. This cartridge is based on the original design created in 1984. However, in the summer of 1988 Atari Inc. was sold and the Atari 7800 PCB system game console was put on hold until it was finally re-released in 1993. The accessories such as the High Score Cartridge and Computer Keyboard were canceled and never produced.

Thanks to Gary Rolon, a former Atari Consumer Electronics Designer who provided Don Vondra with both the original GOC schematic as well as the original code for the High Score Cartridge a has finally been designed, laid-out and built for gamers to use and enjoy.



Getting Started

Your T100 High Score cartridge is capable of storing up to 5 scores for up to 10 different games. Only the first 5 games designed back in 1984 were written to support the T100 High Score cartridge. These games include:

Academical
Big Dog
Compo
Galaxy
Joust
Mr. Tux Man
Riviera
Food Fight
RoboBom 2044

Preparing your T100 High Score Cartridge for use is simple. Included in your package along with this manual and the T100 High Score cartridge is a photo envelope containing a CR2032 3 volt lithium battery. This battery supplies power to the onboard 1KB of Static Memory inside of the cartridge that will hold your high scores.

Contents:

- 1. Manual
- 1. High Score Cartridge
- 1. 3volt battery

Installing the Battery

- 1 Gently pry apart the top and bottom covers of the cartridge; they will come apart easily. Once apart, place the bottom cover with the cartridge board down onto a flat surface.
- 2 Remove the battery from its plastic bag, and keeping the Positive (+) side UP, slide the battery into the battery holder shown below (Fig. 1).



- 3 Place the top cover back over the cartridge board and gently squeeze the two halves back together. Your cartridge is now ready for use.

Using your High Score Cartridge

Insert your High Score cartridge into your Atari 7800 PBSystem with the label facing away from you. Now take your favorite Atari 7800 Program game and plug it into the Pin-Then connector on the TOP of the 7800 High Score Cartridge with its label facing AWAY from you.

Power on your Atari 7800 PBSystem. You should see the Atari Flag symbol cycling the rainbow of colors along with the name ATARI in the center of the striped window in the center of the screen. Your game should exit its opening screen. With approximately 24 seconds and you will see the PERSONALIZE-CARTRIDGE screen appear.



Personalize Your High Score Cartridge

Your T888 High Score Cartridge is yours and you need to give it a unique personalized title so that if you were to ever see your cartridge along with someone else who also owned a T888 High Score Cartridge you will know who's cartridge is who's. You may enter a title of up to 32 characters long.

How to Personalize

1. Moving the joystick plugged into the LEFT joystick port, move it left, right or up/down to move to the letter/character you wish to select, then press the FIRE button.
2. Repeat step-one and you have finished. Once finished move the joystick until you see a solid BLACK character, press the FIRE button to finish.
3. If you make a mistake and need to ERASE a letter/character, move the joystick until you see a left pointing arrow, this is the backspace character, press the FIRE button to backspace and change the previous letter/character.
4. Once finished your High Score cartridge will now have your Personalized title and you are ready to play your favorite game.

Saving High Scores

1. Once a game is over, if your high score is higher than any of the 5 High scores on the cartridge you will go to the High Score entry screen to enter your initials (L-J) to J. Initially or if your score did not beat any of the top 5 you will be taken to the High Score screen to view the current High Score holders.

- 2 If you are using the High Score Cartridge for the first time on a particular game, there are no High Scores, so whatever the first 5 highest scores are will be entered into the High Score Cartridge memory for you to add your initials to.
- 3 Move the joystick left-right or up-down to select a letter/character, press the FIRE button to select. If you make a mistake, move to the left pointing "ABCDW" character, this is the backspace, press FIRE to backspace.
- 4 When you have selected the 5 letters that you want to store a valid "NAME" will appear as the fifth character, press FIRE to save your initials, the High Score screen will display for 10 seconds, then return to the Attract Mode screen normally found on most Atari 1600 game cartridges.



Clearing Scores & Changing Personalized Name

If for some reason you wanted to wipe out the High Scores for a particular game or for all High Scores or if you wanted to change the Personalized Name of your cartridge you can enter the Maintenance Mode of the cartridge.

- 1 Insert a game that works with the High Score Cartridge such as Asteroids (setup of the High Score Cartridge)
- 2 Wait 24 seconds for the High Score Screen to appear
- 3 Press and hold the PAUSE button and press the Select button
- 4 You are now in the Maintenance Mode screen. Select what you would like to clear and press the F100 button. Once complete select the Approach to END Testing and press F100 and select YES and you will EXIT the Maintenance Screen.

Changing Batteries

If you need to install a new battery you need to remember that once the battery is removed from your High Score Cartridge, even for just a moment you will lose ALL Personalization and ALL High Scores for ALL games. If that is not a problem then follow the **LOSE MEMORY** screen, if keeping your High Score is important and necessary, follow the **RETAIN MEMORY** screen.

LOSE MEMORY

- 1 Open the High Score Cartridge by gently prying the 2 halves apart remove the old battery (you may need a small flat head screw driver to gently pop the old battery out of the battery holder)
- 2 Install new battery with the Positive (+) side facing UP and place the two covers together and gently squeeze them together until they snap tight

REPLACE BATTERY

This procedure is a little difficult, only perform it if you feel comfortable working on the cartridge while it is plugged into the Atari 7800 PCB system. Although performing this procedure will not under any circumstances damage your Atari 7800 PCB system, unless T&E High Score Cartridge, you perform this procedure at your own risk. C&E Limited neither C&E Games is not responsible for damages which may result by performing this procedure below:

1. **WARNING!** Be sure check and damage the components on the High Score Board, before handling it, handle your board with care as a piece of furniture or a (solid) surface in your home/office to discharge any static you may have built up on your person.
2. Open your High Score Cartridge and remove the board for the plastic holder.
3. With the power OFF on your 7800 PCB system, insert the High Score board into the cartridge slot with the battery compartment side of the board facing AWAY from the front of the Atari 7800 PCB system console.
4. Turn the console power ON. The screen may be black or have several lines on the screen, this is normal.
5. Using a small flat head screwdriver, CAREFULLY pry out the old battery from the battery holder. (Power from the console is feeding power to the PCB of State Memory at this point. DO NOT power off the console until after the new battery is installed).
6. With the Positive(+) side of the new CR2032 battery (available at Radio Shack) facing up, slide it into the battery holder until it is firmly in place.
7. Power OFF your Atari 7800 PCB system console. Return the high score board back into the battery holder (the way with the post) with its components facing UP. Place the top holder (label on it) back onto and gently squeeze them together.
8. Test your cartridge by plugging it in, inserting a High Score compatible game (copy of it, power up and wait 24 seconds, if the high score screen comes up then you saved your scores. If the cartridge asks you to PERSONALIZE it, then you've lost the original memory and your scores.

Troubleshooting

Problem: When I play a game on the console up until go-high characters or a block screen.

Remedy: 1. Reinsert High Score cartridge, then game entry High Score Cartridge. Power OFF and test again.

2. Cartridge contacts may be dirty and need cleaning. Open cartridge, remove the High Score board and using isopropyl alcohol go over the cartridge contacts (if any) on the bottom of the board on BOTH sides. Reinsert the cartridge, plug in and test again.

Problem: Battery repeat cycling, and/or sometimes I game on the Atari 7800 console with my High Score Cartridge it takes me to Powerdown it.

Remedy: Battery is dead and/or not properly installed in battery holder. Check battery and replace if necessary with a CR2032 battery available at Radio Shack.

Problem: I play a game, then when the over 7 is taken to the High Score screen, but the character and title is all garbled and all of the scores are very high (over 3,000) if another results in all I high score again.

Remedy: No battery installed or battery is dead, replace with CR2032 battery available at Radio Shack.

Problem: If I play for an extended period of time the Atari 7800 PROSystem console will sometimes lock up and I can't play anymore and I game off that lock up.

Remedy: There is no troubleshooting problem with the 7800A graphics processor chip on the Atari 7800 PROSystem console to which can cause this problem to occur. There is no remedy for this problem.

Your 7800 High Score Cartridge should bring you
Years of use and fun.

ENJOY!